



SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

As can be seen in Figures 1 and 6, the back support apparatus 10 comprises a pair of inflatable bladders 20, 22 which surround and define inflation chambers 21, 23, respectively. The bladders 20, 22 are generally oriented parallel to each other and are vertically connected to the front panel 12 of the backpack 11. The parallel bladders 20, 22 are preferably spaced a distance of at most 2 inches from each other to accommodate the spinal column therebetween, as will be discussed in detail below. As shown in Figures 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the parallel bladders have a gap space 29 between them which contains no vertically oriented bladder. However, other separation distances between the two bladders 20, 22 may be suitably utilized as well. And preferably each bladder 20, 22 has an inflated diameter of 2 inches, which has been found by applicant to be effective in providing a comfortable degree of cushioned support without being overly obtrusive during use.